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S.O.T.A.S./NEWS

SOTAS Chairperson: Sue McAllister
"News" Editor: William Kent

April 1976.

KEEPING IN TOUCH:

SAVE OUR TREES AND STREAMS is an organization composed of citizens concerned with protection of the environment. It attempts to provide effective input to the City of Mississauga Council and provides environmental advice to citizens when needed. SOTAS maintains a close working relationship with the Credit Valley Conservation Authority

SOTAS is not a political body. To underscore the determination to be politically neutral, the Executive recently passed a resolution that "any information or issue statements released to any one political party will also be made available to other political parties".

Effective communication is essential if an organization is to remain strong and truly representative of the community which it serves. The Executive of SOTAS has, therefore, given high priority to the development of a newsletter to be published on a regular basis. "S.O.T.A.S. - News" will be produced every two months, and, we hope, will carry items of importance and interest. This is your newsletter. If you wish to contribute an article contact the Editor. If you wish to comment on actions taken by SOTAS, be it praise or criticism, let us know and we will try to publish your comments. We will keep in touch with you. We want you to keep in touch with us.

OFFICIAL PLAN:

SOTAS submitted a brief incorporating the following points: There should be a clear park and open space policy incorporating the concept of major parks of over 200 acres as well as multiple use smaller parks and open spaces. The criteria for establishing these spaces, and the standards which they should meet, should be clearly defined.

North-south links in the open space network should be located in eastern Mississauga incorporating Cooksville and Etobicoke Creeks.

The Credit River should be protected from unnecessary bridging and subsequent damage. Highway 403, if it must cut east-west through Mississauga, should be



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rerouted along Eglinton Avenue, thus saving 80 acres of woodland. This route would provide a clear edge to the "hole in the doughnut", would permit a northern extension of the City Core, and would reduce the cost of bridging and environmental damage to the Credit River.

High quality agricultural land in the "hole in the doughnut" should be conserved. A recreation and production forest should be established on part of the area.

Environmental protection areas should be established. Supporting by-laws and policies should be enacted to protect unique habitats and ecologically fragile areas.

The "City Core" design should incorporate the woodlots to the north. There should be an international competition for this design.

THE STRUGGLE IN COURT:

As you will know, five members of the SOTAS Executive, along with the Corporation of the City of Mississauga, have been sued by Riverview Heights Inc. The initial motion for dismissal of the case put forth by the developer failed and SOTAS, together with the City, proceeded to appeal this ruling. The appeal was heard in the Divisional Court of the Supreme Court of Ontario on February 3 and 4, 1976 and a judgement was released on February 17. The judgement constituted a partial victory for SOTAS and the City. The appeal was allowed and the statement of claim was struck out. The appellants were awarded costs of the appeals to date. However, the developer was given the opportunity to deliver a fresh statement of claim. The developer has not so far indicated whether or not a fresh statement of claim will be filed.

It is important to realise that the struggle is not over. Legal costs continue to mount and a protracted court case continues to be a possibility. If you wish to help you can send your financial contribution to the Legal Defence Fund, c/o the SOTAS, P.O. Bpx 452. Your support will be gratefully acknowledged.

HIGHWAY 403??

SOTAS has established a Sub-Committee, under the Chairmanship of John Ladell, to prepare a submission to the public hearing on the Parkway Belt West proposals by the Provincial Government. The location of Highway 403 is of major interest to SOTAS and of great significance for the future of the City of Mississauga. If you have any ideas regarding this matter call John Ladell at 274-5110 as soon as possible. The Sub-Committee expects to present a



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report to the public hearing early in June, 1976.

DISNEYLAND AT MAPLE?

A Disneyland-type recreational complex has been proposed near Maple in Vaughn Township. The proposed complex would: commit approximately 1/2 a square mile of agricultural land to non-agricultural uses; impair the "buffer" qualities which make Vaughn Township important in restricting Metropolitan Toronto sprawl; result in increases in traffic and may require substantial modifications and upgrading of roads.

If you wish to obtain further information about this, contact Gordon Mackenzie, President, The Federation of Ontario Naturalists at 444-8419.

YOUTH MEMBERSHIP:

An active youth membership drive is under way. All schools in South Peel have been contacted. If you know of young people who might be interested in SOTAS put them in touch with Sharon Mitchell at 278-2015 or Derek Ryder at 822-9585.

MORE NEWS...

■ ■ Ward 6 Councillor David Culham has thanked SOTAS for its support in acquiring parts of Blocks "M" and "L" R.P. 550 for the Credit River/Mullett Creek Public Open Space Area. Wrote Culham: "I want to personally thank you and your organization assisting in this matter. It is much time and effort away from the summer 1973 brief to a public meeting in Erindale on the Woodlot and the RM 6 zoning.

■ ■ ■ ■ Mark your calendar now to attend the important events listed below.

■ ■ ■ Support the Legal Defence Fund by decorating your home (or your friend's home!) by purchasing the "River Credit" plate. The plate was designed by Fay Morrissey of Mississauga and sells for \$5.25. Colours: green or brown. They are selling fast, so call Mrs. Wilma Mason at 822-5321 right away.



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■ ■ ■ Membership renewals coming up soon. Be ready when you are contacted. Get your neighbours to join as new members. Ask them to read this newsletter to find out about SOTAS.

■ ■ ■ Next Newsletter in June. Get your comments in early.

IMPORTANT EVENTS:

April 29

Arthur D. Latornell, Director of the Conservation Authorities Branch, Ministry of Natural Resources will speak about The Role of Conservation Authorities 7:45 p.m. at the Erin Mills Information Centre.

May 13

Special SOTAS meeting. Messrs. Ted Cooke and Peter Smith, of the Regional Planning Team, and Mr. Ted Davidson, Environmental Planner, will meet with all SOTAS members to discuss the Regional plan.

In addition, Mr. Larry Kurtz, Dean of Men, New College, University of Toronto will talk about The Cost of Housing.

8 p.m. at the Erin Mills Information Centre.

May 13

Dr. Ruth Hussey and SOTAS' Bob Lord will star on Credit Valley Cable TV. The Topic: The Rattray Marsh. At 7 p.m.